



SEQUIM FIRST

HEALTHY GROWTH - HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT - HEALTHY COMMUNITY
for the Sequim - Dungeness Valley and the foothills of the Olympic National Park

August 18, 2005

Western Washington Municipal SW Comment

Bill Moore

WA Department of Ecology

Water Quality Program

PO Box 47600

Olympia, WA 98504-7600

via email

PermitComments@ECY.WA.GOV

RE: Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permits

Dear Mr. Moore,

I am writing on behalf of Sequim First, an organization of over 500 persons concerned with the environment in and around Sequim, Washington. We request that you consider the City of Sequim (Sequim) for the NPDES Phase II Designation for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems.

Sequim has recently experienced substantial growth within the city, growing 9.1% since 2000. It has also grown considerably through annexation, with three more annexations currently on file. In addition, the Dungeness Valley, which surrounds Sequim, is experiencing considerable growth.

To make matters worse, Sequim has recently made large increases in its hardscape. In just the past two years it has added two big-box retailers, three smaller retail complexes, and approved hundreds of units of new housing. In the near future, the city is expected to add another big-box retailer, more retail complexes, and still more hundreds of units of housing.

Sequim discharges into an impaired or sensitive water - the Strait of Juan de Fuca, which it shares with Port Angeles (a designated MS4) as a discharge point.

In addition, Sequim impacts three other important bodies of water:

- 1) Sequim Bay, for dissolved oxygen and pH
- 2) Dungeness River, for instream flow
- 3) Bell Creek, for fecal coliform.

Sequim First

(360) 460-4016 • P.O. Box 431, Sequim, Washington 98382
www.sequimfirst.net



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The continued emphasis on almost-uncontrolled growth in Sequim makes it vital that we carefully guard the water quality in this region, and monitor the overall impacts of stormwater discharges on receiving water bodies. By adding Sequim as a Phase II city, the state will be working towards ensuring the quality of several significant waters in Western Washington.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you need any more information, please do not hesitate to call me at 360/461-5433.

Sincerely,

Andrew Shogren
Sequim First, President

Sequim First

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